

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

March 21, 2024

“The Hampden-Sydney student will behave as a gentleman at all times and in all places.”

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A HISTORIC RUN: TIGER BASKETBALL 2024



BRANDON FINCH '26
STAFF WRITER

Hampden-Sydney basketball had an amazing season this spring. The team had a regular season record of 23-2, won the ODAC Tournament, and had the opportunity to win the Division III title. Including the ODAC Tournament and NCAA Division III Tournament, the Tigers ended with an outstanding final record of 31-3. On the road to the record, the Tigers toughed out some close games, made some

impressive comebacks, fired up their fans, and the team most definitely earned the right to call themselves the #1 team in the country. Perhaps the greatest accomplishment of the season was making it to the NCAA Division III National Championship. The game was played on March 16th in Fort Wayne, Indiana where the #1 ranked Tigers faced off against the #13 Trine University for the first time ever, and the game was an abso-

lute spectacle. The Hampden-Sydney Tigers fought hard to go up 25-23 at halftime, but the game ultimately ended with a final score of 69-61 with the Trine Thunder taking the win. Even in the heartbreaking loss, the Hampden-Sydney players deserve to be recognized for their superb playing and hard work on the court. Adam Brazil showed his dominance on the court with a game-high 23 points and was subsequently and rightful-

ly named to the All-Tournament Team. Senior Davidson Hubbard and Senior Josiah Hardy were critical to the offense in scoring 9 points each, and their efforts were joined by fifth-year Ryan Clements and sophomore Shane Fernald who both put up 8 points for the Tigers. A big shout-out to Davidson Hubbard, Alex Elliott (senior), and Chase Turner (fifth year) who all put up 7 rebounds to lead the team as well. These stats demonstrate the immense

amount of effort and fight that the Tigers put into this game. It is safe to say that the Tigers were not lacking in heart. With some more practice and continued coaching, the Tigers look to have another breakout season in 2025 when they can hopefully secure a National Championship. In the end, we should all be proud of how the Hampden-Sydney Tiger basketball team played. Though this season did not end how we would have liked, the team set

lots of school and team records. The Tigers won their 11th ODAC Tournament this season while also boasting their first 30-win season. The success of the team is nothing to sneeze at, in other words. Though we may be graduating some of our Tigers on the team, Hampden-Sydney has a lot of talent to look forward to watching in the next season. Make sure to congratulate any players you see in the coming days, for they truly deserve

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STUDENT EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS

JACOB GARNER '27
STAFF WRITER

On February 29th, 2024, Hampden-Sydney held their annual Student Government elections for President, Student Court Chairman, Secretary Treasurer, and College Activities Council Chairman. For this election, around 53% of the student body submitted a ballot, which is a recent high for the elections turnout rate. The new Student Body President-Elect Drew Blankenship '25, the current Student Senate Chairman, is already hard at work preparing to take over the position from current President Tommy Bishop '24. Blankenship is hoping to use his presidency “to continue developing and making sure the Hampden-Sydney Transportation system gets installed correctly.” The idea for the system,

which includes a bus system to and from downtown Farmville, came from Bishop and Blankenship wants to focus on its implementation in order to combat the issue of an increasing number of DUIs. The President-Elect also wants students to know that he is always available to talk about the campus or any issues that arise. Student Court Chairman-Elect Sam Detrick '25 is hoping to use his time as chairman to help “more people actually understand why we have the honor code in the first place.” He wants to ensure that students understand the honor code and its purpose, and don't see it as “this scary [thing] that you're never going to hear about until you mess up.” Detrick has already begun brainstorming ideas on how to achieve this, including a “meet-and-greet” with honor court members for

freshman. This is all working towards his hope that “understanding why the code of conduct and honor code [are] there is extremely important in getting people to follow it.” Student Body Secretary Treasurer-Elect Brandon Finch '26 is already looking for ways to best serve the clubs on campus and is “hoping to reestablish a good relationship between the Student Finance Board and the general student body.” Finch wants to provide as much as possible for both new and old clubs on campus. He also plans on being “more forthcoming with information that [he] presents and how he [creates] the budget.” Finally, the College Activities Council Chairman-Elect Connor Kitson '25 wants to utilize his time as chairman to continue running the everyday tasks of the C.A.C., but he

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MR. BRUTON GOES TO TOPEKA

NATHAN O'MALLEY '25
STAFF WRITER

On Friday, February 28th our very own Wilson Leadership Fellows competed in a leadership conference at Washburn University and took home the silver, along with some other great awards! For 14 years, Washburn College has hosted a leadership conference where fifteen teams from thirteen colleges learn about leadership and then, through hands-on experience, put their newfound knowledge to the test through a simulated situation of a city-wide blackout. When tasked with a challenge such as this, the Wilson Leadership Fellows were well prepared. The motto for the Wilson Leadership Center is “Preparing men of character for lives of consequence,” and these students excelled in their field. Vinton Bruton IV, the director

of the Wilson Center of Leadership, explained that the conference had two great areas of implementation. The first was the simulation where he enjoyed watching his fellows take on roles of leadership. The second area was the element of competition where, when asked, Bruton said “Make or break boils down to response.” It is in the responses to the simulated crisis that the amazing leadership qualities of these students began to shine. One such example is Connor Eickelman, class of '24, a volunteer firefighter and Wilson Fellow. When asked about the event and how it could prepare someone for a ‘life of consequence’ Eickelman replied “We don't rise to the occasion; we fall to the level of our training. The only way to get better at leadership in stressful situations is to do leadership in stressful situations, and the competition

certainly qualified!” The fellows were given the challenge of dealing with a city-wide blackout due to a severe storm. Each was given a job in the community and received updates on their environment over the course of seven hours. At the end, the Fellows gave a presentation on their community. To throw another challenge into the fray, however, there was also a spy in every group who would distribute “secret grades” throughout the event. In the end, the Wilson Fellows were able to get second place in the competition alongside other awards like the Emerging Leader Award and the Collaboration Award. These awards make one thing clear: with the help of the Wilson Center, Hampden-Sydney will never be short on spectacular leaders.